



News Release

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
1301 N. Orchard St., Boise, ID 83706 - TEL: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866
Internet Homepage: <http://www.idwr.state.id.us>

Release 2002-36

IDWR PLANS PUBLIC MEETING
ON GEOTHERMAL MORATORIUM EXTENSION

For Immediate Release
Boise, Idaho - June 12, 2002

For Media Information Contact:
Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

The College of Southern Idaho has asked state water managers to extend for another five years a moratorium on the use of low temperature geothermal ground water in the Twin Falls area, the Idaho Department of Water Resources said today.

CSI asked IDWR to extend the moratorium for another five years to protect the aquifer and to allow additional technical data to be collected. A five-year geothermal moratorium was originally put in place 15 years ago after IDWR scientists determined the geothermal ground water system was experiencing a significant decline in artesian pressure. The moratorium has been extended twice since then and is due to expire next month.

The Twin Falls geothermal moratorium covers an area of about 140 square miles around Twin Falls south of the Snake River. IDWR has set a special public meeting for June 28th in Twin Falls to discuss the request.

The meeting will run from 10 a.m. to noon in the community room of the Obenchain Insurance Building, 264 Main Avenue S, in Twin Falls. Area residents who attend the two-hour meeting are asked to use the 2nd Avenue South entrance to the building.

The meeting will be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need assistance to attend, participate in or understand the meeting please contact Glen Saxton, (208) 327-7955, in advance so arrangements can be made.

-30-30-30-